Listing of the Claims:

The following listing of the claims is to replace all previous listings of the claims. Claims are numbered relative to claims in the parent PCT/US2004/019229 application, from which this application is being generated.

Claims 1-31. (CANCELED)

Claim 32. (NEW) A method for inhibiting expression of a polynucleotide sequence of hepatitis B virus in an *in vivo* mammalian cell comprising administering to said cell at least two double-stranded RNA effector molecules, each double-stranded RNA effector molecule comprising: (a) a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO:57, SEQ ID NO:58, SEQ ID NO:59, and SEQ ID NO:62; (b) the reverse complement of said selected sequence; and (c) optionally, a sequence linking sequences (a) and (b); wherein U is substituted for T.

Claim 33. (NEW) The method of claim 32, wherein said at least two double-stranded RNA effector molecules are administered to the cell by providing at least one expression vector encoding the double-stranded RNA effector molecules.

Claim 34. (NEW) The method of claim 32, wherein the double-stranded RNA effector molecules are hairpin dsRNA molecules.

Claim 35. (NEW) The method of claim 33, wherein the expression vector comprises at least one promoter selected from the group consisting of a polymerase I promoter, a polymerase III promoter, a U6 promoter, an H1 promoter, a 7SK promoter, and a mitochondrial promoter, said promoter operably linked to a sequence encoding one or more of said double-stranded RNA effector molecules.

Claim 36. (NEW) A composition for inhibiting expression of a polynucleotide sequence of hepatitis B virus in an *in vivo* mammalian cell comprising at least two double-stranded RNA effector molecules, each double-stranded RNA effector molecule comprising: (a) a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO:57, SEQ ID NO:58, SEQ ID NO:59, and SEQ ID NO:62; (b) the reverse complement of said selected

sequence; and (c) optionally, a sequence linking sequences (a) and (b); wherein U is substituted for T.

Claim 37. (NEW) The composition of claim 36, comprising at least one expression vector encoding said at least two double-stranded RNA effector molecules.

Claim 38. (NEW) The composition of claim 36, wherein the double-stranded RNA effector molecules are hairpin dsRNA molecules.

Claim 39. (NEW) A method for inhibiting expression of both a polynucleotide sequence of hepatitis B virus and a polynucleotide sequence of hepatitis C virus in the same *in vivo* mammalian cell, comprising administering to said cell a double-stranded RNA effector molecule comprising a first at least 19 contiguous base pair nucleotide sequence from within a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, and SEQ ID NO:10; wherein U is substituted for T; and a double-stranded RNA effector molecule comprising a second at least 19 contiguous base pair nucleotide sequence from within a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:11; SEQ ID NO:12; and SEQ ID NO: 27; wherein U is substituted for T.

Claim 40. (NEW) The method of claim 39, wherein at least two double-stranded RNA effector molecules comprising an at least 19 contiguous base pair nucleotide sequence from within SEQ ID NO:1 , SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, and SEQ ID NO:10; and at least two double-stranded RNA effector molecules comprising an at least 19 contiguous base pair nucleotide sequence from within SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ lD NO:12, and SEQ ID NO: 27, are administered to the same *in vivo* mammalian cell.

Claim 41. (NEW) The method of claim 39, wherein said administering is accomplished by providing one or more expression vectors capable expressing said double-stranded RNA effector molecules in said mammalian cell.

Claim 42. (NEW) The method of claim 41, wherein said one or more expression vectors comprise one or more promoters selected from the group consisting of an RNA polymerase I

promoter, an RNA polymerase II promoter, a T7 polymerase promoter, an SP6 polymerase promoter, an RNA polymerase III promoter, a tRNA promoter, and a mitochondrial promoter, said promoter(s) operably linked to a sequence encoding at least one of said double-stranded RNA effector molecules.

Claim 43. (NEW) A composition for inhibiting the expression of both a polynucleotide sequence of hepatitis B virus and a polynucleotide sequence of hepatitis C virus in a single *in vivo* mammalian cell comprising a double-stranded RNA effector molecule comprising a first at least 19 contiguous base pair nucleotide sequence from within a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, and SEQ ID NO:10; wherein U is substituted for T; and a double-stranded RNA effector molecule comprising a second at least 19 contiguous base pair nucleotide sequence from within a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, and SEQ ID NO:27; wherein U is substituted for T.

Claim 44. (NEW) The composition of claim 43 comprising at least one expression vector capable of expressing the at least two double stranded RNA effector molecules in an *in vivo* mammalian cell.

Claim 45. (NEW) The composition of claim 43 comprising at least two double-stranded RNA effector molecules comprising an at least 19 contiguous base pair nucleotide sequence from within SEQ ID NO:1 , SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ 1D NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, and SEQ ID NO:10; and at least two double-stranded RNA effector molecules comprising an at least 19 contiguous base pair nucleotide sequence from within SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO:12, and SEQ ID NO: 27.

Claim 46. (NEW) The composition of claim 45 comprising at least one expression vector capable of expressing said double-stranded RNA effector molecules.